

§ 169.553 Pyrotechnic distress signals.

(a) All pyrotechnic distress signals must be of an approved type.

(b) Replacement must be made no later than the first inspection for certification or reinspection after the date of expiration.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, each vessel must carry the following pyrotechnic distress signals:

(1) 6 hand red flare distress signals, and 6 hand orange smoke distress signals; or,

(2) 12 hand held rocket propelled parachute red flare distress signals.

(d) [Reserved]

(e) All pyrotechnic distress signals must be carried near the helm or in a location considered suitable by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

(f) All pyrotechnic distress signals must be stowed in a portable watertight container.

§ 169.555 Emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB).

(a) Each vessel certificated for exposed waters must have an approved Class A emergency position indicating radiobeacon (EPIRB), and each vessel certificated for partially protected waters must have an approved Class C emergency position indicating radiobeacon (EPIRB). The required EPIRB must be—

(1) Operational;

(2) Stowed where it is readily accessible for testing and use; and

(3) Stowed in a manner so that it will float free if the vessel sinks.

(b) Each vessel must have an additional Class B EPIRB for every twenty-five persons onboard, for use in the lifeboats and liferafts.

[CGD 83-005, 51 FR 896, Jan. 9, 1986; 51 FR 10632, Mar. 28, 1986]

§ 169.556 Work vests.

(a) Buoyant work vests carried under the permissive authority of this section must be approved under subpart 160.053 of this chapter.

(b) Approved buoyant work vests are items of safety apparel and may be carried aboard vessels to be worn by persons when working near or over the water under favorable working conditions. Work vests are not accepted in

lieu of any of the required number of approved personal flotation devices and must not be worn during drills and emergencies.

(c) The approved buoyant work vests must be stowed separately from personal flotation devices, and in locations where they will not be confused with personal flotation devices.

(d) Each work vest is subject to examination by a marine inspector to determine its serviceability. If a work vest is found not to be in a serviceable condition, then it must be repaired or removed from the vessel. If a work vest is beyond repair, it must be destroyed in the presence of the marine inspector.

FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT**§ 169.559 Fire pumps.**

(a) Each sailing school vessel must be equipped with fire pumps as required in Table 169.559(a).

TABLE 169.559(a)—FIRE PUMPS

Length	Exposed and partially protected water service	Protected water service
65 feet but less than 90 feet	¹ 1	0
90 feet but less than 120 feet ...	² 1	¹ 1
120 feet or greater	³ 2	¹ 1

¹ May be driven off a propulsion engine and may be used as a bilge pump.

² Must be driven by a source of power independent of the propulsion engine and may be used as a bilge pump.

³ One pump may be driven off a propulsion unit and one pump may be used as a bilge pump. Pumps must be located in separate spaces.

(b) Fire pump capacity must be in accordance with the following:

Vessel length	Minimum capacity
Less than 90 ft	5.5 m ³ /hr (25 gpm).
90 feet but less than 120 ft	11.0 m ³ /hr (50 gpm).
Greater than 120 ft	14.3 m ³ /hr (66.6 gpm).

(c) Each fire pump must be fitted with a pressure gage on the discharge side of the pump.

(d) Each vessel must have a hand operated portable fire pump having a capacity of at least 1.1 m³/hr (5 gpm). This pump must be equipped with suction and discharge hose suitable for use in firefighting.